

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 were submitted and examined. The Examiner indicated claims 1-8, and 13-21 recited allowable subject matter and rejected claims 9-12. Applicant has amended claim 9 and canceled claim 13. Claims 1-12 and 14-21 remain pending.

Specification

In response to the Examiner's objection to the Abstract as too lengthy and containing legal phraseology, Applicant has amended as indicated above. Applicant believes that the amended Abstract addresses the Examiner's objections and complies with the directives of MPEP 608.01(b). Accordingly, Applicant would respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the objection.

Claims rejections under 35 USC § 102(e)

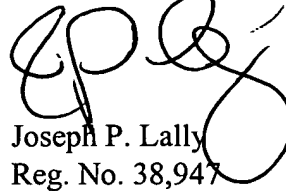
The Examiner rejected claims 9-12 under 35 USC § 102(e) as anticipated by Petkovic [US 6185527]. In response, Applicant has amended independent claim 9 to recite converting the audio input sample to a digitized representation of a first sequence of diphthongs and locating a stored audio sequence comprising a digitized representation of a second sequence of diphthongs where the first and second digitized representations satisfy match criteria. Applicant submits that this amendment substantially incorporates the limitations of claim 13 (now canceled) into independent claim 9. Because the Examiner determined that claim 13 as originally submitted recited allowable subject matter, Applicant would submit that claim 9 as amended likewise is in condition for allowance. Applicant would further submit that because amended claim 9 substantially presents the limitations of claim 13 as originally filed, claim 9 should be entitled to a scope of equivalents that the un-amended claim 13 would have been entitled to had it been simply re-written to incorporate the limitations of the base claim.

CONCLUSION

In the present response, Applicant has amended the Abstract and responded to the Examiner's claim rejections under 35 USC 102(e). Accordingly, Applicant believes that this response constitutes a complete response to each of the issues raised in the office action. In light

of the amendments made herein and the accompanying remarks, Applicant believes that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant would request the Examiner to withdraw the rejections, allow the pending claims, and advance the application to issue. If the Examiner has any questions, comments, or suggestions, the undersigned attorney would welcome and encourage a telephone conference at 512.428.9872.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JPL', written over the printed name of Joseph P. Lally.

Joseph P. Lally
Reg. No. 38,947

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT(S)

DEWAN & LALLY, L.L.P.
P.O. Box 684749
Austin, Texas 78768-4749
512.428.9870
512.428.9871 (FAX)

JPL/mmm

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Abstract

A system, method, and computer program product for locating an audio segment **[within a storage device are disclosed. The system]** includes an input device **[suitable]** for transmitting an input sample **[that is]** indicative of the audio segment and a media player **[suitable]** for playing audio information stored on the storage device. The system further includes a sample converter **[configured]** to generate a digitized representation of the input sample and a digitized representation of the audio information on the storage device. The digitized representation of the input sample may **[comprise] include** a diphthong sequence indicative of the diphthong components of the input sample. In this embodiment, an audio converter of the system **[is configured to generate] generates** an audio content diphthong sequence. **[The audio content diphthong sequence may comprise a digital representation of the diphthong components of the audio information on the storage device.]** The system may further include a comparator configured to detect a match between the input sample diphthong sequence and a portion of the audio content diphthong sequence. **[In one embodiment, the input device may be a keyboard and the input sample may be a text sample. In another embodiment, the input device may be a microphone and the input sample may be an audio message. In one embodiment, the comparator is further configured to produce a signal that indicates the location within the storage device of the matching portion of the audio content diphthong sequence. A media player may be configured to receive the location signal from the comparator and to advance the storage device to the location indicated by the location signal. The storage device may comprise a compact disc, a digital video disc, a VCR, an audio tape, or other storage device suitable for storing the input sequence.]**

In the claims:

Claim 13 has been cancelled.

Claim 9 has been amended as follows:

9 (amended). A method of operating a multimedia storage device player system, comprising:

converting an audio input sample to a digitized representation of [the input sample] a first sequence of diphthongs; and

locating [a matching] an audio segment comprising a digitized representation of a second sequence of diphthongs within audio data stored on a storage device, wherein [a] the digitized representation of the audio segment and the digitized representation of the input sample satisfy match criteria.

Claim 14 has been amended as follows:

14 (amended). The method of claim [13] 9, wherein converting the audio input sample comprises converting the audio input sample to a first text file, and further wherein locating the matching audio segment comprises converting the audio content on the storage device to a second text file.